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Claims

1. A subscriber line circuit (102) for a communication system (100, 200) having subscriber-side communication means (120) for connecting subscriber terminals (110A-B) and having network-side communication means (118) for coupling said subscriber line circuit (102) to the communication system (100, 200),

characterized in that

- the network-side communication means (118) include means for connecting to a packet-based network (108, 202),
- the subscriber line circuit (102) has a plurality of different protocol means (122) for communicating with different network elements (112A-E, 114, 116) of the communication system (100, 200), and
- the subscriber line circuit (102) has means (124) for bi-directionally converting the information transmitted by the subscriber-side communication means to and from the subscriber terminals (110A-B) into the information transmitted by the network-side communication means (118) to and from the communication system (100, 200).

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9. A communication system (100, 200) having a plurality of different network elements (112A-E, 114, 116) for making services and service features available for subscriber terminals (110A-B) and having at least one subscriber line circuit (102) for coupling said subscriber terminals (110A-B) to the communication system (100, 200), characterized by

- a packet-based network (108, 202) for connecting the subscriber line circuit (102) to the network elements,
- a plurality of different protocol means (122), assigned to the subscriber line circuit (102), for communicating with the network elements of the communication system (100, 200), and
- means (124), assigned to the subscriber line circuit (102), for bi-directionally converting the information transmitted by subscriber-side communication means (120) to and from the subscriber terminals (110A-B) into the information transmitted by network-side communication means (118) to and from the communication system (100, 200).